

Chief, Intelligence Information Staff, RR

7 January 1957

THRU : Chief, Industrial Division, RR

Chief, Electrical Equipment Branch, Industrial Division, RR

Requirement for Economic and Technical Data concerning Nickel-Cadmium Storage Batteries.

Background

1. Economic and technical information concerning nickel-cadmium storage batteries produced in the US is required in order to estimate the volume of production of such batteries in the Sino-Soviet Bloc.

25X1X6

3. The solicited information is in support of ORR Project No. 36.1555, The Battery Industry of the Sino-Soviet Bloc.

Requirement

1. It is requested that the suggested source be asked to give the following information on typical types* of nickel-cadmium storage batteries:

- a. Uses.
- b. Electrical characteristics (may be limited to voltage, capacity, durability, dependability).
- c. Prices - f.o.b. factory.
- d. Cost breakdown - labor, materials, depreciation, overhead.
 - (1) Physical - man-hours, machine-hours (see e. below).
 - (2) Value - in percent of selling price (f.o.b. factory).
- e. Material inputs per unit by weight and value.
- f. Comparative volume of use versus lead-acid or other storage battery in the US and abroad if possible. This would ideally

* Typical types mean batteries produced in volume and selected to represent as far as possible the whole range of batteries produced for various purposes, e.g., automotive or motive power.

SUBJECT: Requirement for Economic and Technical Data concerning Nickel-Cadmium Storage Batteries.

be expressed as a percentage of the total value of batteries sold for a given use in a given year.

g. Output per man-year in value and physical units.

2. Please include both sintered and pocket type plates for nickel-cadmium batteries in the batteries selected in 1. above. A brief description of the production processes for sintered and pocket plate batteries is required.

3. A brief discussion on the merits of the pocket type versus the sintered type and on nickel-cadmium versus lead-acid batteries is also required.

4. List special applications (particularly military) where nickel-cadmium batteries are superior.

5. What are the latest developments in product and production technology?

6. How is the labor force of the plant classified according to skill? Percentage classified skilled, semi-skilled, un-skilled, etc. What is the breakdown of the labor force by direct and indirect labor?

7. What is the most troublesome aspect of production? (e.g., skilled labor shortage, impurity of materials, unreliable machinery, shortage of materials, difficulty of maintenance, etc.)

8. Only readily available information is solicited. The above requirements may be considered subject to modification in detail at the discretion of the source.

Degree of need: Urgent.

Target Date: 15 Feb 57.

Suggested Sources: See Background.

25X1A9a

Distribution:

Orig & 1 - Addressee
1 - Chief, D/I
2 - I/EE Files

ORR:D/I/EE [REDACTED] BE/3696 (7 January 1957)

25X1A9a